(b) if so, whether the matter has been discussed with the State Governments so as to finalize the scheme;

(c) if so, the reaction of the State Governments in the matter, State-wise; and

(d) by when the proposed courts are likely to set up and start functioning and how the cost of these courts is proposed to be shared betweem the Centre and the States?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY) : (a) to (d) Fast Track Courts have already been set-up by the State Governments on the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission. The scheme of central assistance for Fast Track Courts was started in the year 2000 for a period of five years which was further extended for a period of 5 years *i.e.* up to 31st March, 2010. As per the information received from the State Governments/Registry of the High Courts, 25,94,231 cases have been disposed of by the Fast Track Courts out of 32,08,911 cases transferred to them.

Legislation in force

†362.SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI :
DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA :
Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of legislation in existence at present which were passed during the pre-Independence era by the then Government passed by the Central Government after Independence and passed by the State Governments after Independence;

(b) the number of such legislation out of these existing only on paper and are not being complied with;

(c) the number of legislations out of these not in effect in its current form; and

(d) whether Government has any plan to review such acts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY) : (a) (i) Pre-Independence : Total No. of Acts : 364

(ii) After Independence : Total No. of Acts : 741

(iii) As regard, Acts passed by State Governments, the information is being collected.

(b) and (c) (i) Number of Acts not enforced - 26

(ii) Number of Acts partly enforced - 13.

(d) No.

Upgradation of legal education

363. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

† Orignial notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether the Advocates Act, 1961 prohibits non-Indian lawyers from practicing in the country and whether international law firms are banned from operating in the country since the 1995 ruling by the Bombay High Court;

(b) if so, whether Government has proposed to set up four law institutes under the National Law School University to upgrade legal education in the country to global standards; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposed law institutes and the likely location of regional hubs?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY) : (a) The Advocates Act, 1961 bars the practice of law in India without enrolment under the Indian Advocates Act, 1961. THE section 47 of the Act ensures reciprocity between a foreign country and India in the matter of exercise of legal profession. It is the discretion of the Bar Council of India to permit or not to permit person to come on its roll. A litigation is also pending before the Hon'ble High Court of Bombay in Writ Petition No. 1526/1995-Lawyers Collective *Vs* Bar Council of India & Ors on the entry of foreign law firms. The matter is under hearing.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Pending court cases

364. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in various District Courts, High Courts and the Supreme Court of India, as on the 31st October, 2009;

(b) whether Government proposes any time bound programme/plan to bring down the pendency; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY) : (a) to (c) As per the latest available information, 53,221 cases were pending in the Supreme Court as on 30.9.09. As per the figures received from the High Courts, 40,18,914 cases were pending in the High Courts and 2,71,20,108 cases were pending in the Subordinate Courts as on 30.6.09. Government has been making sustained efforts to facilitate disposal of pending cases. In addition, the Government is also preparing a road map for judicial reforms in the country which aims, *inter alia,* at reducing pendency in the courts.